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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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RUFJCX/AMCONSUL BORDEAUX 0188
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EZ2:

TEXT
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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: SCOM, US, FR
SUBJECT: RHONE-ALPS MEDIA REACTION TO USG REPORT ON BARBIE CASE
1. COVERAGE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT REPORT
ON **KLAUS BARBIE'S** CONNECTIONS WITH U.S. COUNTERINTELLIGENCE
OFFICIALS VARIED FROM A BARE TEN-LINE NEWS FLASH ON PAGE 12
OF CLERMONT-BASED MONTAGNE TO FRONT OR BACK-PAGE COVERAGE
WITH A LARGE INSIDE STORY IN THE GIANT DAUPHINE LIBERE
GROUP OF NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN LYON AND GRENOBLE.
2. WHILE MOST GAVE A FACTUAL PRESENTATION AND NONE VOICED ANY
REAL CRITICISM, LYON MATIN ADDED THAT "THE AUTHOR OF THE
REPORT... INDICATED TUESDAY THAT THE (U.S.) ARMY HAD ENVISAGED
NEUTRALIZING (SIC) THE FORMER NAZI IN THE MID-60 S BUT THAT
THE CIA HAD REJECTED THIS IDEA. WHEREAS THE PROGRES SPEAKS
OF "ENVISAGING REUTILIZING" HIM. LYON-BASED FR 3 REGIONAL
TV NEWSCAST INCLUDED A TWO-MINUTE REPORT AND COMMENTARY

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FILMED IN FRONT OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL, THE COMMENT REVEALED A TOUCH OF SKEPTICISM ABOUT RYAN'S STATEMENT THAT THE U.S. OFFICIALS WERE NOT AWARE OF BARBIE'S GESTAPO ACTIVITIES: ""THE TROUBLE (L'INCONVENIENT) IS THAT U.S. OFFICIALS ARRESTED BARBIE IN LATE 1947 BUT RELEASED HIM TWO MONTHS LATER.""

3. THE PROGRES HAD PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE AUGUST 15 ANNOUNCING THAT ""THE REPORT SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE PUBLIC LAST WEDNESDAY IN WASHINGTON, BUT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS POSTPONED TILL TOMORROW(TUESDAY 16) SINCE THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE RECOMMENDED THAT APOLOGIES BE MADE TO FRANCE FOR HAVING HELPED **KLAUS BARBIE** TO ESCAPE JUDGEMENT. THE STATE DEPARTMENT APPARENTLY WAS OPPOSED TO THIS INITIATIVE.""

4. PROGRES ENDS ITS AUGUST 17 ARTICLE: ""WILL THE U.S. REPORT UNEARTH OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT **KLAUS BARBIE'S** ACTIVITIES BETWEEN 1949 AND 1983? IN ITS FOURTH ARTICLE ON THE REPORT SINCE AUGUST 12, PROGRES (AUGUST 19) QUOTES U.S. AND FRG PRESS REACTIONS TO THE PUBLICATION OF THE REPORT. LINE 9 OF PARA 2 , PLEASE READ ""THAT THE U.S.""

AMMERMAN

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